

Draft of Motion from Education Standing Committee to Probation Oversight Commission

The Education Standing Committee was formed with the dual purposes of (1) investigating the quality of education services provided to people in the custody of the Department of Probation and (2) providing the public with information about those services. However, Brown Act restrictions on meetings of Committee members outside of noticed, public meetings have severely hampered the Committee's ability to investigate.

At the same time, the Probation Oversight Commission has adopted a structure of ad hoc committees and an approach to setting strategic priorities that is better suited to support investigation into the quality of education services. Among these ad hoc committees is a Programs and Services Committee whose scope of work will include education services. However, as an ad hoc committee, the Program and Services Committee will not be required to meet in the public eye.

To best serve both of the purposes for which the Education Standing Committee was formed, a new structure is required.

THE MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Probation Oversight Commission:

1. Dissolve the Education Standing Committee with the understanding that the Committee's work will carry on as a priority of the Program and Services Ad Hoc Committee;
2. Direct the Program and Services Ad Hoc Committee to convene a series of public forums on education services, to be held monthly, that will serve the purpose of ensuring the public has the most information possible about education services provided to people in the custody of the Department of Probation;
3. That each of those forums will have a specific focus, including discipline, special education services, curriculum, outcomes and transitions, teacher quality, and other focuses as determined by the Program and Services Committee.